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Agriculture, Mining, Forestry and Fisheries

Die deutsche Seefischerie in der Gegenwart und die Mittel zu ihrer Hebung. By DR. HANS GOLDSCHMIDT. (Berlin: Carl Heymann. 1911. Pp. vii, 263. 7 m.)

In contrast with the Vienna school, which is inclined to pure theory, the Historical school of German economists prefers to preface theoretical considerations with an investigation of things as they are. Goldschmidt is a representative of this school; his book was prepared under the supervision of Schmoller, its leader.

Germany is eager to free itself from dependence on foreign countries for its supplies of meat and breadstuffs; its measures to attain this end include the fostering of agricultural technique and the levying of protective duties on this class of imports. The limitations of agricultural productiveness preclude the possibility of supporting on a land the size of Texas a population of 65 millions with a natural yearly increase of 900,000. Maritime fisheries offer the opportunity to extend the country's productive territory far beyond its political limits. Hence the significance of a study of German fisheries and of the means to develop them. Through study of fish literature, personal investigation of conditions and conferences with representatives of the fish industry and the fish trade, Goldschmidt prepared himself for the task.

The German fishing industry, with an average yearly catch of \$7,500,000—in comparison with England's \$50,000,000—suffers heavy disadvantage. Though most of the other lands of north-western Europe have profitable fishing grounds in their immediate neighborhood, particularly England, Denmark and Scandinavia, the German boats have to sail the high seas for days before they come to paying grounds. The Scottish fisher can leave port in the morning and land his fish in the evening; it takes the German fisher days to get his fish home. This results in an increase of his costs of production; it requires him to have larger boats, stronger nets, more ice, etc. Other causes of the low state of the industry are minor to the one just given. Among these causes Goldschmidt mentions lack of coöperation among the fishers, the youth of the German herring fishery, the increasing lack of old, experienced fishers. The capital invested in German fisheries returns only 4 per cent on the investment and even this is due largely to the pecuniary support which the Empire gives the industry.

Excepting possibly in the case of herring, it would not be ad-

visible to aid the industry by levying protective duties on imported fish. Custom-house delays would hinder the necessary expedition in getting imported fish from the boat to inland consumers. Moreover, commercial treaties with Belgium and Roumania stand in the way of duties on fresh fish. Goldschmidt recommends three classes of measures: first, the education of the German people to the cheapness and excellence of the fish diet, Germany's per capita consumption of fish being small; second, the direct support of the German fishing industry by means of preferential railroad tariffs inland and by means of imperial premiums or subsidies; third, the better organization of those engaged in the fish industry and the fish trade.

E. J. CLAPP.

New York University.

NEW BOOKS

BOHM, E. F. C. *The Carey act; how to acquire title to public lands under the act; a comprehensive survey of the regulations in force in the various states.* Revised edition. (Chicago: National Irrigation Journal Publishing Co. 1911. Pp. 69.)

DAVID, F. *Questions agricoles.* (Paris: H. Dunod et E. Pinat. 3.50 fr.)

HEATH, F. G. *British rural life and labour.* (London: P. S. King. Pp. 318.)

To be reviewed.

HURD, R. *Hurd's iron ore manual . . . of the Lake Superior district, with values based on 1911 prices, and guarantees at Lake Erie, method of determination of prices, premiums and penalties, tables of values and statistical data.* (St. Paul: F. M. Catlin, sales agent. 1911. Pp. 162, map, illustrations. \$7.50.)

JOHNSON, J. P. *The mineral industry of Rhodesia.* (New York: Longmans, Green & Co. 1911. Pp. viii, 90. \$3.00.)

Author is a member of the council of the Geological Society of South Africa.

NEUHAUS, G. *Landwirtschaft und Gewerbe.* Two volumes. (Munich: M. Gladbach. 1911. 4.50, 8.00 m.)

The first volume, that on farming, deals with the number and acreage of farms, proportionate yield, the personnel of farm management, live-stock, use of machinery, and vine growing and forestry. The second volume is on business, and discusses the characteristics of different callings and of those in pursuit of them. It discusses the employee, the market, use of motors and specialized machinery, and various forms of business management and enterprise. Estimates and classifications are embodied.